

## REMARKS

### I. Formal Matters:

Applicants thank the Examiner for her consideration of the present application to date.

Claims 1, 3, 5, 7 – 10, and 15 – 22 are pending and have been finally rejected in the application.

Claims 1 and 11 has been amended in response previously established rejections under 35 USC 102 and 103. In particular, Claims 1 and 11 have been amended to specify that the concentration of dopant to the claimed adsorbent material is between 1 and 1000 parts per million. Support in the specification can be found for the amendments at page 4, 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph. No new matter is believed to be introduced by these amendments.

### II. Claim Rejections – 35 USC 102 and 103:

Claims 1, 3, 5, 7 – 11, and 15 – 21 have been finally rejected under 35 USC 102(a) as being anticipated by Murphy (US Patent 5,635,196).

Claim 22 has been finally rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being obvious over US Patent 5,407,442 (Karapasha) in view of Murphy.

Applicants had previously argued (among other remarks) in a response filed 12/26/02 that: dopants would not be present at levels as high as the 31% (glutaraldehyde) disclosed in Murphy; and the glutaraldehyde of Murphy should not be considered a dopant, because dopant's by definition are present only at amounts substantially less than 31%; and further, the glutaraldehyde disclosed in Murphy was added for a different purpose than the dopant of the present invention. As stated in the Office Action of March 11, 2003, the Applicant's arguments were not found to be persuasive on the basis that the glutaraldehyde of Murphy could be considered a dopant since it was present in an amount less than the amount of dessicant (in Murphy).

Applicants have amended the independent claims (Claims 1 and 11) to specifically provide that the level of dopant material present in the compositions of the present invention from 1 to 1000 ppm dopant to adsorbent material. The upper limit of 1000 ppm is several orders of magnitude below the levels disclosed in Murphy. Therefore, the claims as amended are clearly novel over Murphy.

Further, as discussed in previous responses and above, the glutaraldehyde in Murphy is added for a different reason (disinfectant), in addition to being added at a different amount, than the dopants of the present invention. There is no suggestion that such low levels of these materials would have the dopant effect of increasing adsorbent properties of the adsorbent material of the present invention. Applicants therefore submit that the pending claims are also unobvious over the cited art.

**Conclusion:**

Applicant respectfully submits that the above amendment and remarks are fully responsive to the rejections stated in the outstanding Office Action. Entry and consideration of this Amendment After Final, along with allowance of the pending claims, are requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

1. (Three times amended) An odor controlling material comprising, an adsorbent material, said adsorbent material being selected from the group consisting of silica, alumina, silicates, natural and synthetic aluminosilicates and mixtures thereof, said adsorbent material being doped with one or more dopants selected from the group consisting of fatty acids and their derivatives, ammonia and salts thereof, amines and salts thereof, alcohols, aldehydes, ketones, heterocompounds containing at least one nitrogen, sulfur or oxygen atom, and mixtures thereof; wherein said dopant is present at from 1 to 1000 parts dopant per million parts of said adsorbent material.

11. (Four times amended) An absorbent article comprising at least one adsorbent material, said material selected from the group consisting of silica, alumina, silicates, natural and synthetic aluminosilicates and mixtures thereof, said material being doped with one or more dopants selected from the group consisting of fatty acids and their derivatives, amines and their salts, ammonia and salts thereof, alcohols, aldehydes, ketones, heterocompounds containing at least one nitrogen, sulfur or oxygen atom, and mixtures thereof; wherein said dopant is present at from 1 to 1000 parts dopant per million parts of said adsorbent material.